

Remarks

Claims 1-34 are pending, and claims 1-34 stand rejected. Claims 1-2, 5-6, 8-9, 14, and 16-34 are amended by this Response. The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request allowance of claims 1-34.

Amendments to Independent Claims 1 and 18

The Applicants amended claims 1 and 18 to clarify that "wireless call device" in the claims refers to an "end user wireless call device". The specification does not specifically use the term "end user wireless call device", but it is evident from the specification that the wireless call device is for an end user. For instance, on page 6, lines 13-18, examples of wireless call device 100 of FIG. 1 include wireless telephones, pagers, PDA's, and computers. Such devices are traditionally used by an end user. Therefore, the Applicants submit that the amendments to the independent claims are fully supported by the specification.

§ 102 Claim Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 9-23, and 26-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by U.S. Patent number 5,319,699 (Kerihuel). The Applicants submit that claims 1-6, 9-23, and 26-34 are novel and non-obvious over Kerihuel.

Claim 1 as amended is as follows:

*A communication system for providing temporary wireless telephone numbers, the system comprising:
a first switching system configured to receive a registration request from an end user wireless call device without an assigned telephone number, and process the registration request to generate a registration message; and
a service control point configured to receive the registration message, process the registration message to automatically assign a temporary wireless telephone number to the end user wireless call device, and generate and provide a registration response message to the first switching system that includes the temporary wireless telephone number.*

The Applicants submit that Kerihuel does not teach the communication system of claim 1. In particular, the Applicants submit that Kerihuel does not teach *a service control point that automatically assigns a temporary wireless telephone number to an end user wireless call device as provided in claim 1.*

Kerihuel teaches an SCP that maintains a database for wireless communications. The database includes a list of base stations for servicing a particular wireless phone. There is a primary base station and subsidiary base stations for each phone. Each base station is identified by a number for which to connect to that base station. If a call is made to the wireless phone, the call is first routed to the primary base station, and then the subsidiary base stations if the primary is not servicing the phone. This may be referred to as the "home" area. If the phone moves out of the "home" area and is serviced by other base stations, then the SCP enters the new base stations into the database. The SCP "temporarily" enters the number of one of the new base stations as the primary base station and "temporarily" enters the number of the other new base stations as the subsidiary base stations. The SCP routes calls to the phone accordingly. After a time period, the SCP removes the temporary base stations.

The system and method in Kerihuel is much different than the system described in claim 1 of the pending application. The SCP in Kerihuel does not assign a temporary number to an end user wireless call device. The wireless phone in Kerihuel already has a fixed phone number. Thus, the SCP in Kerihuel does not assign a temporary phone number to the wireless phone as provided in claim 1.

The SCP in Kerihuel "temporarily" assigns new base stations as the primary base station and the subsidiary base stations in the database. However, a base station is not an end user wireless call device as provided in the pending application. Also, the base stations in Kerihuel are not temporarily assigned telephone numbers. Each base station in Kerihuel already has an assigned number. The numbers of the base stations are switched around in the database so that calls to the wireless phone can be routed to the proper base station. Therefore, the SCP in Kerihuel does not temporarily assign a telephone number to a phone, a base station, or another other call device.

A commercial advantage of claim 1 is that an end user wireless call device can be used on an "as-needed" basis. For instance, if someone travels to an area and wants a wireless phone for a week, then a phone may be assigned a temporary number for the week and the phone will have service. At the end of the week, the temporary number is un-assigned and can be used again for another phone. Kerihuel does not provide a system that can perform these services.

Based on the above comments, the Applicants submit that claim 1 is new and non-obvious over Kerihuel. Claim 18 and the dependent claims are new and non-obvious for similar

reasons.

§ 103 Claim Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 7-8, and 24-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 in view of Kerihuel and European Patent Application EP 0986237 (Alho). The Applicants submit that claims 7-8 and 24-25 are novel and non-obvious for the reasons provided above.

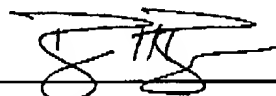
Conclusion

Based on the above remarks, the Applicants submit that claims 1-34 are allowable. There may be additional reasons in support of patentability, but such reasons are omitted in the interests of brevity. The Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 1-34.

Any fees may be charged to deposit account 21-0765.

Respectfully submitted,

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